

HB 0739, Engrossed 1 2003

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to succession to the office of Governor;
3	amending s. 14.055, F.S.; revising provisions relating to
4	succession to the office of Governor; reenacting s.
5	14.056, F.S., relating to succession as Acting Governor,
6	to provide for the same amendments to succession in office
7	as provided for succession to the office of Governor;
8	providing an effective date.
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10	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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12	Section 1. Section 14.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to
13	read:
14	14.055 Succession to office of Governor
15	(1) Upon vacancy in the office of Governor, the Lieutenant
16	Governor shall become Governor. Upon vacancy in the office of
17	Governor and in the office of Lieutenant Governor, the order of
18	succession to the office of Governor shall be:
19	(a) Attorney General.
20	(b) Chief Financial Officer.
21	(c) Commissioner of Agriculture.
22	(d) President of the Senate.
23	(e) Speaker of the House of Representatives.
24	(f) President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
25	(g) Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives.
26	(h) Secretary of State.
27	(2) The taking of oath of office of Governor by an
28	individual specified in subsection (1) shall be held to

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Page 1 of 3} \\ \text{CODING: Words } \text{\underline{stricken}} \text{ are deletions; words } \underline{\text{underlined}} \text{ are additions.} \end{array}$ 



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constitute his or her resignation from the office vacated in order to assume the office of Governor Secretary of State shall become Governor; or if the office of Secretary of State be vacant, then the Attorney General shall become Governor; or if the office of Attorney General be vacant, then the Comptroller shall become Governor; or if the office of Comptroller be vacant, then the Treasurer shall become Governor; or if the office of Treasurer be vacant, then the Commissioner of Education shall become Governor; or if the office of Commissioner of Education be vacant, then the Commissioner of Agriculture shall become Governor. A successor under this section shall serve for the remainder of the term and shall receive all the rights, privileges, and emoluments of the Governor.

(3) In case a vacancy shall occur in the office of Governor and provision is not made herein for filling such vacancy, then the <u>presiding officers</u> Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall convene the Legislature by joint proclamation within 5 calendar 15 days for the purpose of choosing a person to serve as Governor for the remainder of the term. A successor shall be elected by a majority vote of those present in a joint session of both houses.

Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment to section 14.055, Florida Statutes, section 14.056, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

14.056 Succession as Acting Governor.--Upon impeachment of the Governor and until completion of trial thereof, or during



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the Governor's physical or mental incapacity, the Lieutenant Governor shall become Acting Governor. Upon impeachment or physical or mental incapacity of an Acting Governor, or upon vacancy in the office of the person serving as Acting Governor, the powers and duties of Acting Governor shall devolve upon the same officer as in the case of vacancy in the office of Governor. A successor shall serve until the disability of either the Lieutenant Governor or Governor ceases. Incapacity and restoration of capacity to serve as Acting Governor shall be determined in the same manner as in making such determinations for Governor. In any case in which succession as Acting Governor is not provided herein, the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate shall convene the Legislature by joint proclamation within 15 days for the purpose of choosing a person to serve as Acting Governor. Such person shall be elected by a majority vote in a joint session of both houses.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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